

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONROV 03358 01 OF 02 141528Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 IGA-02

DHA-02 FEA-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /099 W

-----141549Z 003242 /45

P R 141500Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4718

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MONROVIA 3358

LISBON FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP (YOUNG, ANDREW)

SUBJECT: VISIT TO LIBERIA OF AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG, MAY 13-14

1. AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE U.S. TO THE UNITED NATIONS, VISITED LIBERIA MAY 13-14, ACCOMPANIED BY STATE DEPARTMENT AND NSC OFFICIALS. ON MAY 13 AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND USAID ADMINISTRATOR GILLIGAN WERE THE GUESTS OF HONOR AT A RECEPTION AT THE DUCOR HOTEL HOSTED BY FONMIN DENNIS. AMBASSADOR YOUNG WAS THE GUEST OF HONOR AT A DINNER FOLLOWING RECEPTION ALSO HOSTED BY FONMIN DENNIS. ON MAY 14 AMBASSADOR YOUNG MET FOR ONE HOUR WITH PRESIDENT TOLBERT AT THE EXECUTIVE MANSION ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR CARTER AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES. (GOVERNOR GILLIGAN AND MRS. GOLER BUTCHER, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR, AFR, MET WITH PRESIDENT TOLBERT SEPARATELY FROM 10 UNTIL 10:30 A.M.) AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND HIS PARTY DEPARTED ROBERTSFIELD FOR LISBON AT 12 NOON, MAY 14.

2. AMBASSADOR YOUNG TOLD TOLBERT THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT UNDER HIS ADMINISTRATION U.S. FOREIGN POLICY WOULD PUT FIRST PRIORITY ON RELATIONSHIPS WITH FRIENDS
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PAGE 02 MONROV 03358 01 OF 02 141528Z

OF THE U.S. STATEMENTS MADE BY AMBASSADOR YOUNG ON HIS ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE ARE SUMMARIZED BY SEPTTEL. AMB. YOUNG COMMENTED THAT UNTIL HIS PRESENT VISIT TO LIBERIA HE HAD CONCENTRATED MOST OF HIS OWN ATTENTION ON TROUBLE AREAS SUCH AS RHODESIA AND ANGOLA. HE SAID THAT DURING THIS VISIT TO LIBERIA, THROUGH WHAT HE HAD SEEN AND WHAT HE HAD HEARD FROM FONMIN DENNIS AND OTHER OFFICIALS, HE HAD BEEN IMPRESSED BY THE EFFORTS BEING MADE BY THE

GOL TO IMPROVE THE LIFE OF ALL LIBERIAN PEOPLE. HE SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN IMPRESSED BY THE EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS THAT THE GOL HAD IN BRINGING ALL CITIZENS INTO THE ECONOMY. AMB. YOUNG TOLD THE PRESIDENT THAT HE WOULD SEE WHAT HE COULD DO ON HIS RETURN TO WASHINGTON TO GIVE "MORE SUPPORT" TO THE GOL. PRESIDENT TOLBERT ELABORATED ON HIS OWN PHILOSOPHY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR AFRICA, WHICH HE DESCRIBES AS "HUMANISTIC CAPITALISM". TOLBERT SAID THAT HE STRONGLY SUPPORTS A FREE ENTERPRISE ECONOMIC SYSTEM AND A DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL SYSTEM UNDER WHICH ALL MEN ARE ENCOURAGED TO ACQUIRE AS MUCH AS THEIR ABILITIES PERMIT, AS LONG AS THEY DO NOT ENGAGE IN EXPLOITATION OF THEIR FELLOW MAN NOR IN CORRUPT PRACTICES. IT MEANS ALSO, TOLBERT ADDED, THAT THOSE WHO DO ACQUIRE WEALTH THEN TAKE IT UPON THEMSELVES TO BE OFF ASSISTANCE TO OTHERS IN IMPROVING THEIR LIVELIHOOD.

3. PRESIDENT TOLBERT DESCRIBED THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND PARTICULARLY IN RHODESIA, AS "AN ISSUE OF BURNING INTENSITY." HE REMINDED AMB. YOUNG THAT THE GOL REGARDS THE "CONSISTENT AND RELEVANT INVOLVMENT" OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE PROBLEMS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA AS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT. THIS INVOLVEMENT, HE SAID, SHOULD BUTTRESS AND SUPPLEMENT THE ACTIVITIES OF AFRICANS THEMSELVES. TOLBERT SAID THAT WE MUST BE AS PERSISTENT AS THE RHODESIAN LEADERSHIP IS STUBBORN. TOLBERT SAID HE BELIEVED THAT THROUGH APPLICATION OF STEADY PRESSURES THE PROBLEM OF ZIMBABWE COULD BE SOLVED PEACEFULLY. AMB. YOUNG THEN DESCRIBED THE GENERAL APPROACH WHICH THE U.S. WAS TAKING IN THE RHODESIAN SITUATION, NOTING THAT THE U.S. INTENDED TO STAY MORE IN THE BACKGROUND AND TO LEND A SUPPORTING ROLE TO THE EFFORTS

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PAGE 03 MONROV 03358 01 OF 02 141528Z

OF TH UK. IN THE UN THE U.S. WOULD CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR PASSAGE OF RESOLUTION 385. AMB. YOUNG COMMENTED ON THE PIVOTAL ROLE WHICH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT PLAYS IN THE RHODESIAN SITUATION AND REFERRED TO THE ROLE WHICH HAS BEEN GIVEN TO VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE TO CONDUCT A DIALOGUE WITH PRIME MINISTER VORSTER. AMB. YOUNG BRIEFED PRESIDENT TOLBERT ON THE BACKGROUND OF HIS INVITATION BY PRIVATE BUSINESSMEN TO VISIT SOUTH AFRICA.

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PAGE 01 MONROV 03358 02 OF 02 141533Z

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FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4719

INFO AMEMBSSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MONROVIA 3358

LISBON PASS AMBASSADOR YOUNG

4. PRESIDENT TOLBERT SAID THAT HE REGARDED THE RECENT MEETING OF THE INDUSTRIALLY ADVANCED COUNTRIES IN LONDON AS EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL AND SIGNIFICANT FOR THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE DEVELOPED AND LESS DEVELOPED NATIONS. HE ALSO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE EMPHASIS WHICH THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN PLACING ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE.

5. AMB. YOUNG EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT ECONOMIC TIES BETWEEN THE U.S. AND LIBERIA COULD BE STRENGTHENED. HE REFERRED TO THE FACT THAT NIGERIA WAS THE SECOND LARGEST SUPPLIER OF OIL TO THE U.S. AND TO THE IMPACT WHICH THIS FACT INEVITABLY HAD ON RELATIONS BETWEEN NIGERIA AND THE U.S. AMB. YOUNG COMMENTED THAT DESPITE THESE TIES AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN OFTEN FIND IT HARD TO RELATE TO NIGERIANS BECAUSE OF CERTAIN NIGERIAN ATTITUDES. HE SUGGESTED THAT BECAUSE OF THIS IT IS POSSIBLE THAT INCREASING NUMBERS OF U.S. BUSINESSMEN WILL BE TURNING THEIR ATTENTION TO WEST AFRICA AND TO LIBERIA AS ATTRACTIVE AREAS FOR INVESTMENT.

6. AMB. YOUNG STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE WHICH THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WAS DETERMINED TO GIVE TO U.S. RELATIONS WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 MONROV 03358 02 OF 02 141533Z

THE THIRD WORLD AND WITH AFRICA. HE COMMENTED ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE FACT THAT A GOOD PORTION OF THE TOP TALENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WAS PRESENTLY IN LIBERIA. HE NAMED GOVERNOR GILLIGAN, AID ADMINISTRATOR; C. WILLIAM MAYNES, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS; SAM BROWN, DIRECTOR OF ACTION; AND RICHARD MOOSE, DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR MANAGEMENT. PRESIDENT TOLBERT SAID HE HAD BEEN GREATLY ENCOURAGED BY CURRENT TRENDS OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND LOOKED FORWARD TO WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE U.S. TO ACHIEVE PEACE THROUGH JUSTICE AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. IN CONCLUSION, PRESIDENT TOLBERT ASKED AMB.

YOUNG TO CONVEY HIS GREETINGS TO VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE IN LISBON, AND TO PRESIDENT CARTER AND SECRETARY VANCE, ON YOUNG'S RETURN TO WASHINGTON.

COMMENT: PRESIDENT TOLBERT PUTS GREAT STOCK IN BUILDING PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS AND WAS CLEARLY PLEASED BY THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MEET FACE-TO-FACE WITH AMB. YOUNG. PRESIDENT TOLBERT AND SOME GOL OFFICIALS HAVE, FROM TIME TO TIME, EXPRESSED DISQUIET OVER WHAT THEY FELT TO BE A LACK OF SUFFICIENT DRIVE BEHIND AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICAN AFFAIRS. WE FEEL THAT THE IMPACT OF THE PERSONAL MEETING WITH AMB. YOUNG, REINFORCED BY THE SIMULTANEOUS GATHERING IN MONROVIA OF THE USAID DIRECTORS, WILL SERVE TO REASSURE THE PRESIDENT AND THE LIBERIAN LEADERSHIP OF THE INTENT OF THE U.S. TO PROJECT ITS INFLUENCE IN A POSITIVE MANNER INTO AFRICAN PROBLEMS.
CARTER

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